

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

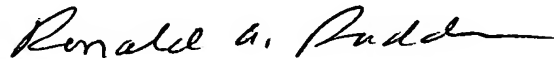
Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 47-48 are presently active, Claims 1-46 having been canceled by way of the present amendment. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, examination on the merits of Claims 47-48 is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters  
Registration No: 28,870  
Ronald A. Rudder, Ph.D.  
Registration No: 45,618

CUSTOMER NUMBER

22850

(703) 413-3000

Fax #: (703) 413-2220

EHK:RAR:clh

I:\ATTY\RAR\DIVISIONALS\246021US\PR.DOC